



St Matthew's Catholic Parish



(Established 1831)

12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor, NSW 2756

Telephone: (02) 4577 3073

Our Parish Mission Statement:

We believe and live out the mission of Jesus Christ as a community of worship and faith shared in service.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: *Fr Ranillo Creta*
Sacramental Coordinator: *Ms Cita Adams*
Parish Secretary: *Ms Judy Rigg*
Parish email: windsor@parracatholic.org
www.stmatthewswindsor.org.au
Office hours next week 9.30am to 4.30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Schools:

St Matthew's Primary Phone: 4560 2300
Principal: Mr Ben Ticehurst
Chisholm Catholic Primary Phone: 4573 3200
Principal: Mr Michael Mifsud
Bede Polding College Phone: 4560 2900
Principal: Mr Greg Malone

Masses:

Easter Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm
Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30am

Holy Hour for Children

First Friday each month 6.00pm

Sodality of Our Lady (in hall):

Every Monday 3.30pm to 4.30pm (children)

Pilgrim Rosary (in hall):

Every Tuesday 7pm

Legion of Mary (in hall):

Every Wednesday 6pm (youth)
Every Thursday 7pm (adult)

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

Every second Saturday 10am

Baptisms:

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays each month.

Marriages:

By appointment

Second Sunday of Easter Year C
(Divine Mercy Sunday)
27th April, 2025



When I hear, "I don't go to church but I am a spiritual person," I have to bite my tongue and not ask, "What have you got against the body?" I think the religious ideal of the above 'spiritual' person is of calm, serenity and tranquil mysticism. Our Christian faith doesn't offer us that. Not only did the Son of God take on our humanity, he embraced our sin, suffering – the messiness of human life. He carries the scars of his encounter with us beyond the grave...as badges of honour that show the power of divine love overcoming all that is worst in humanity. When he first appears to his disciples offering "Peace" he shows his scars as though saying, "You can trust this peace as it was gained through this."

Thomas was onto something when he demanded to feel, to touch these wounds and Jesus kept him up to those demands when he told him to thrust his hand into his side. It doesn't end there for Thomas, with Jesus' injunction to him to stop doubting and believe. Rather he has to enter into his own woundedness in his life as a disciple. Tradition tells us that he was martyred preaching the Gospel in India.

We, too, have our wounds and these are a privileged way for us to enter into the life of God. In this midst of our mess, our bodies, yes, even our sinfulness, Jesus comes making us Temples of the Holy Spirit. Then we can come to treasure our wounds as we, too, will bear them as badges of honour in the next life. For the present though, we can face the failures and tragedies of our life, especially when helped by others. This is one of the reasons I go to Church. There I find people struggling in the midst of sin and failure, looking to the love of God to console and fulfil them. We may not be up to much to human eyes but we are, in truth, the Holy People of God. This is our mysticism.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

We all have our moments of doubt and scepticism. Thomas' resulted in a deeper faith and insight into the person of Jesus.

Sit quietly with your God. Affirm the love that has been offered to you in the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

When you are at rest in that love, open your mind and heart to the various doubts that may disturb you.

Do not be afraid of the doubt: Jesus himself is the Truth and he can use it to led you to deeper love and trust.

Ask God for wisdom and guidance.

Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasyoucan.com.au
Graphics: youngcatholics.com

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 5 : 12-16
The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

RESPONSE: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING: Apocalypse 1 : 9-13, 17-19
I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20 : 19-31
After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Pope Francis, Marilyn Marinas, Ramy Pama as well as Pio Vella and Vella family, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Jason Vella, Mary Grima, Charlie and Joanne Vassallo, Xavier and Rosaria Sammut, Chris, John, Marianne Sultana and family.

Sick: Please pray for Tony Xerri, Maggie Abraham, Susitina Makasini, Grant Leslie, Joan Dodd, Thelma Rays, Roslyn Wright, Christopher Sales, Fely Watkins, Sam Galea, Kevin Hawkins, Julieta Hawkins, Kate Rogers, Joe Vella, Alya Oyon-Oyon and Riley Oyon-Oyon

PROJECT COMPASSION

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2024. Please return your Project Compassion box or envelope as soon as possible so the money can be forwarded to Caritas..

PONTIFICAL HOLY LAND GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

We would like to thank parishioners for their generosity, our Parish raised \$2095.- for the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - First Eucharist

At special Masses this weekend and next weekend, the children who have been preparing, will receive their First Holy Communion. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers at this special time.

ST ELISABETHS CONVENT

St Elizabeths Convent Minsk in Belarus is a Christian community that supports a large psychiatric hospital; takes care of an orphanage for children with mental and physical disabilities and runs a rehabilitation centre and a shelter for the homeless. Next Thursday, 1st May, the sisters will be selling their handcrafts and religious items after the 9am Mass to raise funds to help support their ministry. Your support will be appreciated.



HOLY HOUR FOR CHILDREN

We will be holding the monthly Holy Hour for children on Friday, 2nd May at 6pm in the Church. It will be followed by Mass at 7pm. All parishioners are invited to attend especially children.

MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS

The Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis will be held this Sunday, 27th April at the 11am Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. All are warmly invited to attend, Bishop Vincent will celebrate the Mass, which will also be livestreamed on St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel. If you wish to write condolence message, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is organising a condolence book Please email your message to condolencebook@catholic.org.au



ROSTERS: 3RD/4TH MAY, 2025			3ND SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY YEAR C	
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech.			Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.	
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	T. Ripa	S. Mackenzie	C. Conolly	A. Pennings
Reader/s:	M. Said	C. Attard	T. Victorino	E, Sultana
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	F. Watkins	D. Edgar